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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/901,402

07/09/2001

Francis Hsieh

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7590

06/10/2005

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EXAMINER

PIZARRO, RICARDO M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2661

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. ☒

09/901,402

Applicant(s)

HSIEH ET AL.

Examiner

Ricardo Pizarro

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-11 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 12-13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Applicant is hereby requested to provide the Serial Number of the US related application.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US patent No. 5,758,126 (Daniels).

Regarding claim 9, Daniels discloses a processing engine for a processing node of an electronic commerce distributed network, the processing engine (Value added network 90 in Fig. 1) comprising: a plurality of communication units (i.e. FTP server 240 Mime Post Office 220 In Fig 7 that shows the VAN 90), operable to communicate with participating organizations (i.e. user clients 230 and sponsor clients 20 in Fig. 1) in a plurality of communication protocols, the plurality of communication units further operable to receive electronic commerce messages from originator organizations and communicate electronic commerce messages to recipient organizations(col 4 lines 19-22) ; an engine operable to process an electronic commerce message received

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from an originator organization and to build an outgoing electronic commerce message for transmission to a recipient organization (engine duties are performed by the mainframe computer in processing engine 90 in Fig,. 1 that processes electronic commerce according to a particular standard, col 5 lines 59-61), wherein the engine accomplishes processing and building by: accessing profiles that defines characteristics for the originator organization and the recipient organizations (X.500 Directory stores specific attributes related to subscribers to VAN 90, col 7 lines 43-45); the processing engine providing electronic commerce interconnectivity for participating organizations that have different computer and communication environments(Value added network allows communication among different environments, col 4 lines 38-45).

Daniels did not specifically disclose and invoking selected functions from a matrix of functions where the selected functions are chosen based upon the profiles for the originator organization and the recipient organization; and an interface unit coupled to and communicating with the plurality of communication units and the engine.

However Daniels discloses the processing engine 90 in Fig, 1 including storage means for other applications (260 in Fig. 7, col 15 line 60) that may reside in the unit and can be used by subscribers, one of them could have been encoding/decoding or the like . Daniels as well discloses a x.400 interface residing in the sponsor clients 20 (col 7 line 24) that could have been equally located in router 55 I n Fig. 1 or any other location since an interface among the engine and subscribers would have been needed for the system to operate.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Daniels reference in order maximize the number of users that can communicate though electronic messages by providing additional means that for instance can generate acknowledgment message, providing additional means to give copies to clients, additional means to provide translations etc.

The motivation to do so is to have a system where the originator organizations in the electronic commerce system does not have a need for a specific software or hardware and need only a means of communicating with the recipient organizations Regarding claim 10, wherein the interface unit is an X.400 unit operable to communicate using an X.400 protocol ((col 7 line 24).

3. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Us patent No. 5,758,126 (Daniels) in view of US patent No. 5,577,202 (Padgett.).

Daniels did not disclose the plurality of communication units comprising a P1 unit and a P7 unit, as in claim 11.

Padgett discloses a Message handling system comprising P1 and P7 units (62 and 64 in Fig. 2, col 5 lines 32-35).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Daniels reference by including p1 and P7 protocols as disclosed by Padgett to give the system the capability to interface two different message handling systems.

The motivation to do so is to recognize when messages need to be transferred from one message handling system to the other and for reconfiguring the message to be compatible with the other system.

4. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US patent No. 5,758,126 (Daniels) in view of US patent No. 5,974,406 (Bisdikian).

Daniels did not disclose the profiles of the originator organization and the recipient organization are accessible via an external user interface.

However Bisdikian discloses an automated system applicable to e-commerce wherein the profiles of the originator organization and the recipient organization are accessible via an external user interface (col 7 lines 15-20)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Daniels's system by providing a GUI as in Bisdikian to have a system that could bring together dispersed buyers and sellers of goods and services via easy to use computer interfaces.

The motivation to do so is to provide an automated search system that is capable of receiving profiles from users of the system.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 12-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Conclusion

6. The allowability of claims 9-14 is hereby withdrawn due to new art developed.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306

(for formal communications intended for entry, for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to 220 South 20th Street, Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03, Arlington, Va 22202 (Customer Window).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Ricardo Pizarro** whose telephone number is (571) 272-3077. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM. The fax number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

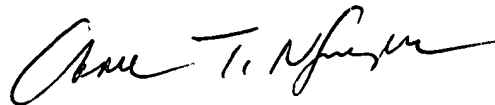
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Chau Nguyen** can be reached on (571) 272-3126.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

June 2, 2005

Ricardo Pizarro

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chau T. Nguyen".

CHAU NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600